



NEWS RELEASE

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Small Business Financing Available to Local Entrepreneurs SBA Loan Representative to Visit San Luis Obispo on June 18th

San Luis Obispo County – Record-breaking loan totals were approved during the last seven months of this fiscal year by the Fresno District Office of the U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA) to small businesses in San Luis Obispo County. For the period of October 2003 - April 2004, 116 SBA guaranteed loans were approved to assist small businesses in San Luis Obispo County as compared to 81 approved loans during the same time period in the previous year.

Ronald E. Truly, Deputy District Director of the Fresno SBA Office said, "Small businesses in San Luis Obispo County are growing at a significant rate. We anticipate this growth to continue throughout this year."

The mission of the SBA is to help entrepreneurs grow and develop their own small businesses. SBA offers a wide array of programs and services to assist entrepreneurs from small business financing, government contracting, surety bond programs, to small business counseling and training programs. SBA services are offered to the public free of charge.

SBA Representative Truly will be visiting the SLO area on June 18, 2004 and setting up appointments with local small business entrepreneurs at the Mission Business Information Center (BIC) to discuss SBA programs and services. **Small business owners are encouraged to call the BIC at (805) 549-0401 to arrange for an appointment to meet with Ronald Truly of the SBA on June 18, 2004.**

"A major concern for today's small business owners is access to capital and credit. SBA has many different financing options available through participating lenders with flexible repayment terms to meet the needs of the small business constituent. Businesses in San Luis Obispo County are very fortunate in that there are a number of very active SBA participating lenders in this area," said SBA Deputy District Director Truly.

Free small business counseling on how to start your business is available at the Mission Business Information Center located at 3566 S. Higuera, Suite 100 in San Luis Obispo. The BIC is sponsored by the U. S. Small Business Administration, Cuesta College SBDC and Mission Community Services Corporation.

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